

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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64

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

DRC-01 /053 W

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P R 192043Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7465

INFO DOD

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 7692

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN: VELASCO ALVARADO, JUAN

SUBJ: MEDICAL ASSISTANCE FOR PRESIDENT VELASCO

1. WALTER REED ARMY MEDICAL CENTER TEAM, COMPOSED OF LTC ALCIDE LANOUI AND MR. JAMES CLOUD, DEPARTED LIMA TODAY AFTER COMPLETING EXAMINATION OF PRES VELASCO FOR PURPOSES FASHIONING NEW PROSTHETIC DEVICE. ON BASIS DEBRIEFING GIVEN EMBASSY, WE JUDGE VISIT WAS HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL AND THAT THERE IS GOOD POSSIBILITY U.S. MADE ARTIFICIAL LIMB WILL GIVE PRESIDENT RELIEF FROM DISCOMFORT WHICH HE SEEKS. TEAM REPORTS THAT VELASCO APPEARS TO HAVE MADE EXCELLENT RECOVERY AND IS IN STRONG PHYSICAL CONDITION; HE IS MENTALLY ALERT AND LUCID AND ACTING WITH THE MANNER AND DECISIVENESS OF A PRESIDENT. BARRING ANOTHER EPISODE LIKE PREVIOUS ANEURYSM, THERE IS NO APPARENT MEDICAL REASON WHY HE CANNOT CONTINUE AS CHIEF OF STATE FOR A PROLONGED PERIOD.

2. TEAM MEMBERS INFORMED EMBASSY THEY CAN RETURN IN ABOUT THREE WEEKS WITH PARTLY FINISHED PROSTHESIS WITH FINAL WORK TO BE DONE AT LOCAL MILITARY HOSPITAL LABORATORY FOR FINAL FITTING. SUBSEQUENT VISIT IN ABOUT SIX MONTHS TIME MAY BE NECESSARY. TREATMENT ACCORDED TEAM BY PRESIDENT REFLECTS CONSIDERABLE PERSONAL CONFIDENCE IN TEAM AND APPRECIATION FOR ITS WORK. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS SAME TEAM RETURN FOR NEXT VISIT.

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3. EMBASSY WISHES CONVEY APPRECIATION TO

DEPARTMENT, DOD AND WALTER REED ARMY MEDICAL CENTER
FOR MAKING IT POSSIBLE RESPOND TO THIS REQUEST FOR
ASSISTANCE TO PRESIDENT VELASCO.
BELCHER

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